

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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FACT SHEET

US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE  
FIELD OF TRANSPORTATION

Cooperation in transportation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, which began in 1968 with exploratory exchanges of technical delegations in the areas of bridge construction and tunneling, high-speed rail and containerization, and urban transport and the environment, was formalized by the conclusion on June 19, 1973, of the Five-year US-USSR Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Transportation which was renewed on June 19, 1978, for two years and automatically extended in June 1980 for three years (until June 1983). There were six Working Groups formed under the Agreement:

1. Transport of the Future (Magnetic Levitation and Urban R&D Topics)
2. Transport Construction (Bridge Construction and Tunneling)
3. Railroad Transport
4. Civil Aviation - with five subgroups:
  - Air Traffic Control (ATC)
  - Microwave Landing System (MLS)
  - Training and Education
  - Noise and Pollution
  - Accident Investigation
5. Automobile Transport (highway safety)
6. Hazardous Materials Transport

As a result of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the United States adopted the policy in early 1980 of embargoing high-level meetings with the Soviets, although agencies were asked to maintain technical cooperation of benefit to the U.S.

President Reagan has cancelled the June, 1983 renewal of this Agreement.

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